

To: Amato, Paul[Amato.Paul@epa.gov]; AMARIS, JOSH[AMARIS.JOSH@EPA.GOV]
Cc: Montgomery, Michael[Montgomery.Michael@epa.gov]
From: Albright, David
Sent: Fri 6/24/2016 7:08:51 PM
Subject: RE: Request from Lead Region by Thursday, 6/23

Paul/Josh:

For CA UIC/Question 1: EPA Region 9 continues to implement enhanced oversight of the CA Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources' (DOGGR's) Class II Underground Injection Control (UIC) program to ensure that the program is in compliance with federal requirements. EPA holds monthly oversight meetings with DOGGR and the State Water Board to discuss key injection program implementation activities, including the State's consideration/processing of aquifer exemption requests, impending UIC regulatory revisions, and the State's ongoing evaluation of previously approved injection projects. The Region also regularly documents the status of the State's program implementation efforts in written correspondence, outlining progress made by the State and identifying key outstanding activities needed to assure program compliance.

Let me know if you have questions. I'm copying Mike in case he wants to add anything.

Thanks,

David

From: Amato, Paul
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2016 8:25 AM
To: Dermer, Michele <Dermer.Michele@epa.gov>; AMARIS, JOSH <AMARIS.JOSH@EPA.GOV>; Licata, Juanita <Licata.Juanita@epa.gov>; Polanco, Susan <Polanco.Susan@epa.gov>; Li, Corine <Li.Corine@epa.gov>
Cc: Montgomery, Michael <Montgomery.Michael@epa.gov>; Albright, David <Albright.David@epa.gov>; Eberhardt, Doug <Eberhardt.Doug@epa.gov>; Andrew, Sallach <Sallach.Andrew@epa.gov>; Konner, Thomas <Konner.Thomas@epa.gov>
Subject: Request from Lead Region by Thursday, 6/23

Hi folks, Lead Region has asked that we provide some information as part of the annual Federal Manager's Financial Integrity Act (FMFIA) requirements for FY16 and they need it by this Friday, June 24th. The items highlighted in yellow were identified as areas where we are doing something to respond to the identified challenge below. Please provide me with a brief response to question #1 explaining what we have done/are doing, and if you feel so compelled, to #2 for the items next to your names and send to me by this Thursday. Let me know if you have any questions and thanks in advance!

1. Are you doing anything in your region to address any of these challenges? If so, what?
2. Do you have recommendations on how OW and the Regions should address these challenges beyond those activities currently being done?

Challenge - EPA Needs to Improve Oversight of States Authorized to Accomplish Environmental Goals / States Diminished Capacity to Implement Federal Environmental Programs: *The OIG believes that the EPA's oversight of states authorized to implement environmental programs under several statutes remains a key management challenge. The OIG notes that while progress has been made, such as the development of a key performance indicator on strengthening state, tribal, and international partnership, and the formation of a senior-level workgroup, the agency needs to establish consistent national baselines that states must meet, and EPA must monitor. GAO reports that the funding EPA provides for the categorical grants that help states operate their core programs has not kept pace with increased responsibilities arising from newly promulgated or modified rules. Additionally, continued budgetary constraints and cutbacks raise concerns regarding EPA's oversight of state programs and implications if states are unable to fulfill core program requirements.*

CA UIC (Dermer)

CA DW SRF (Amaris/Licata)

HI DW SRF (Polanco)

PWSS CA – PROGRAM REVIEW (Li)

Paul F. Amato

Water Division,

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